

wards and John Wesley. This is the conclusion of the writer :

Since the days of Jonathan Edwards there has never been such need as now for emphasizing the law of God in its divine authority and its sacred sanctions, in order to "break up the fallow ground" and prepare men for the effective presentation of the way of salvation thru the atonement of Jesus Christ and the regenerating work of the Holy Ghost. The multitudes of self-indulgent and idle and inconsistent professors of Christianity must be startled out of their worldliness and stupor before any forward and upward movement is possible. No better lessons for the present crisis can be found than in the work and works of Edwards, the leader in the Great Awakening and religious reaction of the eighteenth century. Both are to be commended to the profound and prayerful study, along with that of the Word of God itself, of every preacher who desires to understand the mind of the Spirit and how to reach and save men.

Edwards's great theme, in meeting the needs of the men of his times, was the sovereignty of God's grace in the salvation of sinners thru justification by faith in Jesus Christ. In presenting this theme he gave some of the most powerful exhibitions of man's depraved condition, of the terrors of the divine law, and of the lost condition of sinners that have ever been made in the history of the Christian church. Under the first of these subjects may be instanced such sermons as those entitled: 'Man's Natural Blindness, in the Things of Religion'; 'Men Naturally God's Enemies'; 'The Self-Flattery of Sinners'; 'Hypocrites Deficient in the Duty of Prayer.' Under the others are such as: 'The Final Judgment, or the World Judged Righteously by Jesus Christ'; 'The Justice of God in the Damnation of Sinners'; 'The Eternity of Hell Torments'; 'Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God'; 'Wicked Men Useful in their Destruction Only.'

But equally intense and powerful was Edwards's presentation of the grace of God in salvation. This may be seen in such sermons as those entitled: 'Justification by Faith Alone'; 'The Wisdom of God, Displayed in the Way of Salvation'; 'Great Guilt no Obstacle to the Pardon of the Returning Sinner'; 'The Peace which Christ Gives His True Followers'; 'God the Best Portion of the Christian.'

But aside from his preaching the writings of Edwards were of immense value in destroying the Stoddardian theory of an easy way for the unconverted into church membership, in helping to guide the religious movement of his day as it extended its sweep, and in guarding against the tendency to great extremes that showed itself in both the opposers and the friends of that remarkable work of God's grace. The reader will find in such works as 'Thoughts Concerning the Present Revival of Religion in New England,' 'A Treatise on the Religious Affections, and 'Original Sin,' an insight into the character and a revelation of the needs of that age and of the present age that can be found nowhere else in religious literature. Some of the forms of expression may need to be changed or modified, but of the essential truth not one whit, since it is simply the exposition of God's unchanging Word.

## Personal Mention

Brother J. L. Bowman, pastor, reports two accessions in the Pike congregation, and one at Vinco, Pa.

Brother J. C. Mackey reports two accessions by baptism to the Bear Creek congregation of which he is pastor.

Brother McFaden reports one baptism, a preacher this time, who upon investigation, concluded

that he did not have the New Testament baptism. We wonder, whether if some other preachers would take the trouble to investigate a little they would not come to about the same conclusion.

The reader will find in this issue a rather unique interpretation of a number of parables by brother J. C. Cassel. Read his sermon.

Brother Kimmel reports two baptisms at Winchester, Ohio. The work in Dayton is doing well, especially so considering the extreme warm weather.

Brother Rensch continues to give us some very pointed and practical lessons in church work. These lessons will help, not the pastor alone, but the laity also.

Brother Cassel and wife have gone to a Sanitarium somewhere in Pa., and we are glad to report that Sister Cassel is improving in health and trust she may entirely recover.

Brother L. O. Hubbard has charge of three congregations and has been recalled to all of them for the incoming year. Brother Belote, one of Ashland's Bible students will preach for him at Brighton Sunday evening, July 21.

Brother L. S. Bauman takes charge of the Philadelphia church November 1, 1901. It will be remembered that during the last year Brethren Bowman and Bauman were jointly the pastors of this church; after November 1, 1901, Brother Bauman takes charge alone.

Brother Darling, of the Pittsburg church is visiting at Dallas Center, Iowa. We take the following from a local paper of that town: Rev. Roger Darling delivered a fine sermon to a large audience last Sunday evening. The services were held in the Presbyterian church to accommodate the crowd and the church was well filled.

A card from Brother Lyon, Washington city says: A few days ago I received by express prepaid a crate of fine raspberries. Now I am going to thank Brother Grossnickle, of Mapleville, Maryland for them, altho I have received no notice from any one as to who sent them. But I feel quite sure that Brother Grossnickle is the right man to thank for he has been acting that way for two or three years and it is just like him. We appreciate his kindness very much.

Brother L. A. Hazlett, Salisbury, Pa., writes: Church work is moving along harmoniously. Our regular quarterly council meeting of the 10th was the most largely attended of any since I am pastor. All business was done very satisfactorily. Old debts are being "cleaned up" and the debt on the church house lowered. Brother Beachy and I spent one whole day visiting members and urging them to be present and help to transact business. We planned our work and then worked our plan. The church granted me a vacation.

Brother W. C. Perry has been employed, by the Milledgeville school Board as principal of their schools and Sister Perry, assistant principal. This means that both will go to Milledgeville about September 1 or a little earlier, as the schools there open about September 2. Brother and Sister Perry will please accept our congratulations. With Prof. Hady at the head of the Lanark public schools and Prof. Perry at the head of the Milledgeville schools, the cause of the Brethren church is strengthened in those places, tho it has necessarily been weakened somewhere else. We very much regret that Brother Perry cannot be present at our National Conference this fall.

Brother McFaden still believes in "printer's ink." Recently he issued a "Pastoral Letter" to his people, dated July, 1901, with these words as a motto, "The Crew Stood by the Ship." The letter is as follows:

The above words were sent thru-out the country recently. A ship was wrecked, but the crew stood by the ship, and because they did, not one of the five hundred passengers was lost. When I read the words, I thought of the church, of her members and work, her prow pointed toward the eternal harbor, thru foam cap waves she pressed steady on her course, the destiny of many in her charge, hidden rocks and rough breakers are on every side. He who slept on tempest tossed Galilee is her commander, and yet her success, from the earth side to some extent depends greatly on her crew standing by the ship. Let us give the church here our attention, our prayers and our presence, let us see that not a thing is lacking, let us stand by each other, help each other, build each other up, and be patient with each other. Sometimes these things may be hard to do, the waves are rough the wind is high, the clouds are black, the lightning is sharp, the experience is unpleasant, and the harbor lights seem far away. The Angel had one foot on sea, and one on land. God rules one as well as the other, look up, trust him he will guide you safe. If I can help you in any way let me know, tell me when you are sick, advise me when you see a needed work, help me help you. Look thru the Florescope at the X-ray and the flesh seems to melt away, only solid bones remain. Look at God thru his promises and you will see the substantial; obstacles will melt away. Turn the light of God's word on the work and you will have something to think about. This letter is an evidence I think of you; remember me in your prayers, and God grant you may hear it said, when the world is amid crashing sounds: "The Crew Stood by the Ship," and "None of Them is Lost." John 17: 12.

### "We Learn to Will by Willing"

Lutheran Observer.

Of course, the man who is conscious that his will is weak must seek strength for it from God. But he must not neglect to bring himself in contact with the means thru which God will answer his prayer. In his Word God has set before us motives enough to energize our wills and impel to right decisions. Celestial answers and inspirations breathe thru all its pages.

Nor must any man expect that his will will be strengthened apart from his own activity. He must act when he is acted upon. The muscles grow strong by use. By repetition of acts habits are formed, and habits become second nature. So the will grows strong by exercise. Every time it asserts itself it takes on a fresh increment of power, until what was at first hard grows easy.

We learn to will by willing. It is a splendid sight to see a man who is moral master of himself amid all the complex problems of life, whose will asserts itself and makes deliberate choice of the right as far as God gives him to see it. In his self conquest, and conquest over evil allurements from without, he verifies the saying of Goethe, that "he who is firm in will moulds the world to himself."